

Earth First!

ACTION UPDATE

NEVER SUBMIT!

NUMBER 10

MAY 1994

30P

Solsbury Hill -

You can't kill the (Twyford) spirit

You saw it here first in AU9, and the latest anti-roads camp is up and already very active. It has become the natural rural successor to Twyford Down. Solsbury Hill hopes to be the rallying camp for the summer. Bath EF!ers and SOS (Save Our Solsbury) were desperate for people in the middle of March, and sent the movement this message:

"Opposed by many local people, the Scheme will destroy vast areas of common land, farmland, trees and hedgerows, including a large slice of Solsbury Hill, a popular local beauty spot where an iron-age hill fort can be found. Also under threat is a badger sett with up to 10 adults and between 1-3 litters of cubs, and a new pond. 20 homes will be bulldozed. So much of what I care about is under attack here...and what for? Road-building in the 90s is clearly such a pointless, outdated and tragic waste of everybody's time, money and natural environment" (Sarah Bath EF!). Cont p2



MORE OF AN PARTY THAN A MARCH!

The injustice-to-people-who-just-want-to-get-on-with-their-lives-Bill has drawn together anti-roads people, travellers, ravers, sabs, and the generally-pissed-off-with-the-latest-Tory-outrage. Full credit to the Advance Party for organising a non-violent afternoon of fun and thoughtfulness in the sun, no credit to the heavy handed Metropolitan Police for doing their utmost to turn the Criminal Justice Bill (CJB) rally into a riot.

Were the 20 riot vans and baton-wielding policemen really necessary? Why is it that people in uniforms can't handle drums and dancing and people having FUN? During one incident a playful frolicker (allegedly) dared to touch the helmet of one of her majesty's officers. This he paid for when he found himself being paraded at high speed around the square by a snarling policeman. Estimates range, (lets call it 20,000) of the numbers who got themselves to London for the rally, but let's just say there wasn't much room for the pigeons. The mainstream media had no time for the march, the only good thing about mealy Guardian article, which didn't even mention anti-roads protests, was that the reporter must have gone home before the police kicked off...Judging by plod's behaviour we could do with a CJB to sort out the Met. If only it were applied to them.

One of the EF! responses is on page 2

ACTION! ACTION! ACTION! ACTION! ACTION!

Solsbury Hill, Bath front page and page 2	M11+ Wymondham still raging pages 2+3	Criminal Justice Bill see page 2	Shut Down Sellafield June 20th page 6	The Return of CRISP-O June 14/ 15th page 6
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Reports confirm that Group 4 are selling themselves to the Dept of Transport as EFi-breakers. They, or one of their directors, also own Ecover, until now an ethical clean. Mid-Somerset EFi are calling for a boycott of Ecover products in protest at their links with Group 4.

Forgive Us Our Trespasses'

This is the new campaign as EFi's answer to the CJB. It is hoped that groups around the country will carry out as many actions as possible after May 1st until the CJB becomes law. As aggravated trespass is Clause 54, then a corresponding number of actions are hoped for. If you have an action then contact Leeds EFi on 0532 629427, they are coordinating this un-coordinated ramble, and they will give you a number and fax the national press with the details and numbers. The first week managed 10 actions, we could double it every week! If you are in London, then you can join the No M11 campaign's 'Forgive Us Our Trespasses' with direct action every Monday..

Wymondham
Bypass
Action

If you feel like lurching out, we suggest doing it at Wymondham, near Norwich. Norwich EFi have launched a lunch-out challenge across the country for the person who can stay up their 110 foot pile-driver the longest. The current record is 45 hours. Anyway, the cost of an hours inactivity up where the air is clear...£1000. Meanwhile, actions continue several days a week, but WE NEED PEOPLE as there are very few permanent at the camp. Illegal eviction from the disused railway line went ahead and the camp had to move a couple of hundred yards along the line, but it is now permanent. In the last 3 weeks, the pile-driver has been occupied almost constantly. Camera are suing the DoT for the illegal eviction - with Legal Aid! Remember, this is John Macgregor's back yard- we disrupted a local opening ceremony 4 days before the London rooftop occupation. Lastly, the police are having nothing to do with the camp as there has been only 1 arrest since January.

Solsburg Hill Update and Latest News

14th March, the day the contractors (AMEY) were due to start, they did not start for two days due to totally unexpected protests. The work was regularly blockaded by protesters as ARC, who are supplying roadstones, tried to get their plant onto the site. By the 25th March, 2 houses were successfully squatted, and the protest camp was set up on Solsburg Hill. Some houses were reclaimed so easily that ACE Security have now been replaced with Reliance (also at M11)

26th April - After a court case in which some of the land was spared by the judge, bailiffs moved in and cleared the land of protesters. There were 7 people in trees, two of whom managed to stay until the bailiffs moved in to the rest of the water meadows on 2nd May.

28th April, 4 houses and surrounding land were issued with eviction notices. While in court, the bailiffs attempted an illegal eviction of the 'Nursery', but this was stopped. In a solidarity action, 10 people walked into the offices of AMEC near Oxford and delayed work for 4hrs.

About 2-300 people turned up to the Baitain fire festival. Saturday saw an action against AMEY, about 60 people stopped trucks entering and leaving the site. Security made 3 citizens arrests under section 10 of the Criminal Law Act (obstructing a sheriff in the course of his duties), when there was no sheriff actually there. The police arrived and charged the 3 people with breach of the peace, these people were held in the police station for 2 hours and then released without charge.

Saturday night a digger made of wicker was burned on the hill, with fire juggling, etc, and on Sunday houses were barricaded as we danced around the maypole as.

2nd May a dragon procession made its way to the water meadows from the hill, this involved an invasion of the site and dancing around the remaining trees which were still occupied by two activists. An 'aerial village' in beech trees near the water meadows was constructed.

3rd May, all the houses were barricaded, about 100 people stormed the construction site and occupied a large crane which was to be used to get people down from the trees, also two diggers were surrounded, work was stopped totally on the site all morning.

4th May was the major eviction day when most of the site was reclaimed under pretty vicious circumstances. In poor taste the Police called it Operation Greenbelt. Three houses were knocked down, leaving only one which is heavily guarded.

5th May, AMEY try to bulldoze the garden of Tania's family (Infamous protester), neighbours and friends move in with tents and benders while others went to the Hackney Homeless festival. The locals are now really getting into the campaign and seem to be able to avoid arrest unlike EFi and Dongas.

SOS are now targeting every firm supplying the services- fencing, diggers, etc The camp is still on, please visitand stay the summer! Save Our Solsburg office 0225 445119 or

M-WAY DEMO MOB CAMP ON MINISTER'S ROOF

MOTORWAY protesters made top Tory John MacGregor hit the roof yesterday - by camping on top of his house.

Nine demonstrators scaled the Transport Secretary's home in a dawn raid which sparked a 41,000 police and fire operation. They climbed a 50ft ladder and roped themselves to a chimney before

By PASCOE WATSON

unfurling flags and banners, including a huge picture of a road.

Mr MacGregor was awoken at 6.30am by footmen clumping across the roof of the £250,000 house in Mueswell Hill, North London.

An hour later he left in his ministerial car to shouts of 'Blames not Roads'. He would not speak to the

protesters, who say a new M1 link road in East London will make them homeless.

The stunt, named Operation Seven after the house number, ended after five hours.

Supt. Niall Thornton said: 'All they succeeded in doing was terrifying and shocking Mrs MacGregor.'

The nine were charged with obscenely behaviour. One campaigner said: 'We want Mr MacGregor to know something about the human cost of his motorway road-building programme.'



Demo - banner dropped over home

THE SUN, Wednesday, April 27, 1994

NO, NO, NO, M11

The latest news from Leytonstone, conveyed by carrier pigeon from on top of John MacTarmac's (his identity has been changed for his protection) roof is that after only 7 months work, the contractors, Norwest-Holst, are five months behind schedule, in spite of all of our assistance and constant benevolent presence.

9 protesters climbed onto the transport minister's roof last week, apparently trying to find somewhere to live, perhaps in one of the spacious wings of his abode. All credit to the "group's liaison man Patrick Field (made up name?); smartly fitted out with (borrowed?) suit, tie and clipboard". [The Indy says the "precision and organisation was flawless" - surely shone mistake? - eds]

Operation Roadblock

Operation Roadblock has now been and gone; a great success which will be an inspiration to other road schemes throughout the country. It started with 'Lollipop Ladies' helping pedestrians over the as yet not existing road - estimated cost of this crossing: £50,000. In the next three weeks 1,200 people regularly stopped the earth trawlers. Peasioners were hauled off of machinery and schoolchildren demonstrated their energy with er... demonstrations. After a month of continuous action, a rally was held at the Bush Wood site, heralding the end of Roadblock 1. Recently security guards have taken the Pillbrook Road site and are taking the houses apart with pick-axes. Maybe they have no working plant left??? The campaign is now concentrating on three fronts: Leytonstone, Claremont Road and one day per week of direct action. The campaign has issued a call for help for anyone with time to spare to go and help with these worthy projects. Every Monday is direct action day, so meet at the office at 9.30am for a briefing (see also page 2)

Activists hospitalised

Monday 9th May the second Direct Action day activists were out in force for Operation Snowball. Unfortunately at least two people were seriously injured, one man had his hand severely cut and was kept in hospital overnight, but, more seriously, Josh Leighton suffered a broken pelvis and crushed ribs as a lorry ran over him as he was locking on under it. His is now in hospital and in severe pain. Please send cards, messages of support to him c/o the M11 address overleaf.

Finally, a big Thankstonia to everyone who made Roadblock possible. It was a gas, but hopefully not CO₂.

GOLFERS SENT TO COVENTRY.....

It has come to our attention that much loved area of Coventry, which is a Site of Importance for Nature Conservation (the golf course site, not Coventry), is under threat. The villains of the piece are Henshall Golf Club, and Coventry Earth Spirit are not best pleased. The issue is currently at a relatively early stage but there has already been considerable outcry from concerned individuals and groups. Earth Spirit are holding a People's Picnic on June 19th, noon until late. It is near to the A45 (the Birmingham-Northampton road). 0203-691642 is the number for those who prefer herbal tea to teeing up.

..... AND OLDHAM..... Oldham council's plans for a golfing centre of excellence have enraged Lancastrians. The site concerned is on the Beal Valley, which is a Site of Biological Interest, and the area's last surviving lowland peat and wetland. Objections would be sensible to this project, and further details can be obtained from 0206-841074.

..... AND JAPAN..... The Global Anti-Golf Movement is based here. These helpful people will be happy to prevent accusations of cheating and other libellous allegations at the 19th hole by preventing the development of the bloody things. EPlers prefer woods to Five-woods. Their address is GAG'M, 1047 Naka, Kamogawa, Chiba, Japan 296-01. Tel. +81 47097 1011.

The latest growth area of radical activity is North of the border. With the Skye Bridge Campaign, Superquarries and an ever-growing number of EF! groups, radical activism in this area is fighting back.

The Superquarries came to the forefront of activity when Edinburgh EF! stormed and disrupted a conference entitled 'Constat Quarrying in Scotland - A Way Forward.' Activists unfurled banners, beat drums and sang happy songs, while the delegates pulled long faces and looked rather weary. During their stay several concerned individuals were assaulted by members of the hotel staff. The action was in protest at the wholly destructive qualities of the quarries, which involves the digging up of whole mountains, (in Harris, a hole deep enough to bury the Empire State Building!)

Glasgow EF! is a new group, set up approximately 2 months ago, and already it is reaching the national press. Their M77 protest, targeted at the destruction of Pollok Park, one of the few green spaces in the city. With actions and enthusiasm such as this, is it any wonder that some English activists are moving Northwards?

Strathclyde road planning office occupied.....

On 22nd April around 40 EF!ers occupied the office of the road planning department of the Strathclyde regional council in protest at controversial plans to construct the £70.2 million 11km-long M77 motorway extension through Glasgow's Pollok Estate - the largest green urban area in Europe.

At 8:00 am activists entered the building to disrupt the move of the regional council's road-building department into the new premises. The activists occupied the 5th floor and staged a constant picket outside for 3 hours after which they left of their own choice. Work in the entire building was severely disrupted for the morning. The group occupied and padlocked the doors of the regional roads department, and hung banners from the rear of the building and stopped employees entering. The police had to call the Fire Brigade to cut the padlocks and several had chained themselves to desks before leaving after three hours of agitation. There were no arrests, and then it was time for "an arse kicking party".

Pollok Park, a 1008 acre area of woodland and fields, was given to the people of Glasgow and given legal protection in 1939. It was a gift by Sir John Strling Maxwell and marked the beginning of the National Trust for Scotland, who have been entrusted to protect it from development, but have since sold the area needed for the road to Strathclyde regional council. Part of the route has already been constructed but was postponed due to lack of funds. More money has since been collected, including funding from the European Union, and construction work may begin December 1994.

..... and Scottish Nuclear

The Scottish Nuclear headquarters in East Kilbride near Glasgow were also invaded. A full report of the action will be forthcoming shortly.



Walk For The Earth

(WFTE) are back again after their Northern Road scheme walk last September with a new one. They are leaving Wanstonia on June 11th and travelling to Manchester Peace Festival by the 25th June. They are passing various road schemes and nuclear sites on the way, including the motorway widening unit and Birmingham the day before the public inquiry for the Northern Relief Road opens. WFTE walks are relaxed and easy-going and people are welcome to join for as much or as little as they want. For details call 0422 844710 for a briefing pack.

Tower Se

For a number of Oxford EF! have I "Oxford Is Chokli action-based cars and buses of centre. Past action growing number cycling round and r the major roundabout causing traffic chaos

On 3rd May paid £1.20 to enter a city centre landmark. Using pieces of wedged the doors attached banners to tower and flags. Protesters refused to again until the air is enough to breathe. Protesters dressed and gas masks. Hanged drums and leaflets to passers-by. Leaflets were handed out in general approval. The designed to coincide with local elections.

The protest night sleeping in the came down at 9.30 p.m. The Green Party Ward and narrow Clements ward by

NORTH W EF! HUNT QUARRIES

North Wales EF!'s day of action (Welsh against Bethesda (McAlpine) was on Mass ecological disaster inflicted upon the paragon of corporate Alfred McAlpine. The district council in the words of "...build a concrete green field site."

Also, this relatively vibrant group of anti-nuclear Wyllfa plant in M activity is currently planned, so if possible them, there'll be a hillside for you.

Tower Seige!

For a number of months now, Oxford EF! have been running "Oxford Is Choking", a direct action-based campaign to get cars and buses out of the city centre. Past actions have seen a growing number of people cycling round and round the lain, the major roundabout in Oxford,, causing traffic chaos.

On 3rd May four 'tourist' paid £1.20 to enter Cerfax Tower, a city centre landmark in Oxford. Using pieces of wood, they wedged the doors closed then attached banners to the top of the tower and flagpole. The protesters refused to come down again until the air below is clean enough to breathe safely. Below, protesters dressed in white suits and gas masks held placards banged drums and handed out leaflets to passers-by. About 1000 leaflets were handed out to general approval. The action was designed to coincide with the local elections.

The protesters spent the night sleeping in hammocks and came down at 9.30am the next day. The Green Party took Centre Ward and narrowly missed St Clements ward by 100 votes.

NORTH WALES EF! HUNT THEIR QUARRY.

North Wales EF!'s first planned day of action (Welcome aboard!) against Bethesda Quarry (McAlpines) was on April 27th. Mass ecological disaster is being inflicted upon the land by that paragon of corporate virtue Alfred McAlpine. Together with the district council they plan to, in the words of one EF!'er, '...build a concrete abbatoir on a green field site.'

Also, this relatively young but vibrant group also carried out an anti-nuclear action at the Wylla plant on May 3rd. More activity is currently being planned, so if possible, go and join them, there'll be a welcome in the hillside for you.

Local News



FASLANE FOCUS FEATURE FRENZY.

Faslane Peace Camp sits outside the Clyde submarine base, home of Britain's nuclear weapons, on the Gareloch - 30 miles NW of Glasgow. Just over the hill is Coulport, 3000 acres of once beautiful land, now concreted, razor-wired and hiding the planet's greatest threat in its underground bunkers.

Once a month huge convoys of articulated lorries carry the new Trident warheads from their factory at Burghfield, near Reading to Coulport. They travel on the busiest roads and through the middle of many towns and cities e.g. Glasgow, Edinburgh... If one of these lorries crashed we're looking at either a full scale nuclear explosion or, more likely, a massive release of deadly radioactive Plutonium into the air, water and soil!

13 of these convoys have travelled to Coulport in the last year. Faslane Peace Camp has stopped, painted, climbed on and delayed 11 of these (the other two broke down), despite a massive military and police presence.

In the last year there have been over 160 arrests for direct action here including stopping convoys, ramming Vanguard, the new Trident submarine, blockades, break-ins and much more. Apart from 38 arrests at the successful September blockade, most of these actions have been carried out by regular campers only and the charges, fines and prison sentences are building up.

Recently the camp celebrated its 12th anniversary, and although the community is well established, it always welcomes visitors to its perimeter (unlike the M.O.D.). Bring bolt-cutters and let's see these fences tumble as we reclaim the land that is rightfully ours.

Faslane Peace Camp tel: 0436 820901

SPIRAL TRIBE ACTION

Dense forestry around the Coulport armaments depot provided extra cover for those involved in the 'Spiral Action on Sunday 20th March. Activists engaged in 'hit and run' tactics, continuously cutting the fence only to disappear, regroup and emerge further along the tree line at the sight of police. 3 men were later arrested after being identified using boltcutters earlier in the day. 4 others were also detained but released without charge.

That same evening 4 women were picked up within the perimeter of the base. They had managed to cut their way inside, evading infra-red surveillance cameras and using carpet to scale the razor wire. All 4 were charged with Byelaws.

On the second action, 50 people warned over the Nuclear Warhead Convoy as it tried to run the peace camp gauntlet when leaving Coulport. Seventeen more were arrested having been dragged from the top of the warhead carriers. Paint was also smeared on the windscreens. Two men climbed a tree enabling them to gain access to the roof of one of the trailers. Charges were Breach of the Peace and Vandalism. Three protesters were Quik-Kuffed.

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The Greenhouse

Norwich - The Greenhouse, which houses Norwich EF1, Hunt Sabs and other groups plus the shop, has now set up a charitable trust and bought the building next door to treble the size of the centre. The building has been gutted and architect's plans have been drawn up. Work on the restoration of this listed building has started but the Greenhouse are appealing for people to come and help. You do not need to be skilled in any trade (although this will help), just willing to learn. Write to the Greenhouse for information.



OPERATION TREEWATCH

For a week Oxford FoE, EF1 and concerned residents used direct action tactics to stop trees being cut down indiscriminately. Activists twice brought work to a standstill by climbing into the trees which were due to be cut down and locking onto the machinery of the tree 'surgeons'. Some surgeons were escorted away by police when protesters climbed into trees on the central reservation. EF1ers have managed to stop work despite an unreasonably large police presence - 6 police vans and 20-30 police for 16 protesters on one day. However, no arrests have been made, the protesters will continue until the Department of Transport agrees to suspend work completely. The Department is quoted as saying the trees were being cut down as they were either a hazard or dying (well, they're dead now). A further action at 4.30am on Saturday 26th March did not manage to stop the remaining trees from being cut down.

The DoT makes great show of the number of trees it plants every year (they publish figures) but cannot tell us how many they destroy. Ironically, of course the trees along Oxford Ring Road were planted by the DoT when they built the road!

New DoT rules are leading to large-scale destruction of trees 16 metres along both sides of all major roads. They also have a blanket policy of removing various species including indigenous ones such as Elm, Cherry and Willow, even if perfectly healthy.

Oxford EF1 have compiled a briefing document, which is available from them.

The Return of CRISP-O

Under the auspices of CRISP (Citizen's Recovery of Indigenous People's Stolen Property) Officers all around the country 'ethically-shopped' mahogany and took it to police stations asking them to investigate allegations that the wood is stolen from indigenous people's land. No-one was prosecuted for shoplifting, although at the time of writing Stroud EFL are going through the courts. CRISP-O's happened all around the country at the end of 1993, but have ground to a halt as people see little movement from the police. A mahogany meeting in Norwich on 7/8 May decided to relaunch CRISP-O - with a difference.

The problem has been that local police forces have just been handing the mahogany back to shops which has pissed everyone off. This time the idea is to shoplift the goods, tell the police, and then take the goods to London and give them to the Attorney-General - the highest lawlord in the country, and ask him to investigate our claims. We want to see a huge pile of wood dumped either in his office, or, if we can do it, given to an MP in the House of Commons (MPs are above the law within the House of Commons, so should not be worried about receiving stolen goods). The action is still being finalised but the date is the 14th/15th June. Experience suggests that this is a great way to get new people involved in what is a very simple action. Full details and briefing packs are available from CRISP-O on 0603-831007.

Rio Tinto Stink!

Dozens of sacks of rotting fruit and vegetables were dumped on the steps of mining giant RTZ's head offices in March. RTZ, who recently celebrated coming first in Survival International's 'worst of the world's worst companies with respect to indigenous people's rights and the environment', got a taste of their own medicine and some bad press in Bolivia as a result. The action was a symbolic protest in solidarity with the people of Oruro, Bolivia, who are suffering the effects of RTZ's toxic waste exports to their land.

Todmorden Gathering

Well, it happened, we got wet, had a party, got loads done, and there is a report at last. The gathering report was hoped to be an insert into the Action Update so that everyone could see what was discussed, even if people weren't there. However, there was not enough space so we have sent a copy of the gathering report to all groups. If you want your own copy, and the local group is hard to contact, please send an SAE to Manchester EFL and we'll send one out to you.

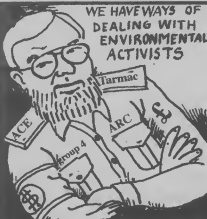
Sawn in the USA

EFLers are invited to attend the Native Forests Network gathering in Missoula, USA, Jake Jagoff writes:

"Greetings from the coniferous zone where the battles rage. Cove/Mallard (massive direct action camp) is still hot and heavy - should be a humdinger this spring and summer. We'd really like to see a contingent of English (sic) activists over to empower us in the art of fighting over urban and suburban forests".

The conference is a 3-day gathering for anyone interested in forest issues. It follows the first conference in Tasmania in 1991. Their address is NFN, 4649 Sunnyside Avenue North, #328, Seattle, WA 98103, USA. Tel: (206) 545-3734 Fax (206) 632-6122 e-mail: spardee@igc.apc.org

WE HAVE WAYS OF DEALING WITH ENVIRONMENTAL ACTIVISTS



actions against these organisations will be really well-informed. Various individuals around the country are undertaking to research certain companies, and then as soon as they have suitable info - addresses, names, policy, contracts, etc, this is sent out with more detailed data available on request. Corporate Watch is being co-ordinated from Manchester and Oxford at present, but so far there are individuals from 14 groups who are interested. A briefing sheet on how to start will be available shortly from Spexy in Manchester. If you are interested, even if it is simply to keep all the articles you see in the papers which mention Corporate bodies, then get in touch with Manchester until we get properly networked. **Remember: the planet is dying, and the people who are killing it have names and addresses and roofs to squat!**

CORPORATE WATCH LAUNCHED.

We are now ready to announce, after discussion at Leeds, a new EFL initiative. Corporate Watch aims to provide EFL activists with the latest information on those who trespass against us - rather than the other way around? Several companies are coming under the scrutiny of the researchers, including Amey Holdings, Group 4 Securitas/Ecover, Norwest-Holst, and the 6 DIY companies. The purpose of the campaign is to be an information network, so that

Sorry!!

A few apologies to make on AU9. Firstly, the gathering at Todmorden was the 4th, the first being Brighton, second, Leicester and third being Wheatstone...if anyone else tells us we'll scream. Secondly, two Scottish EFL groups narrowly missed the deadline for inclusion, so they're in now. Thirdly, various mess-ups on the back-page addresses, lastly, the Rainbow Centre in Kentish Town, London has been squatted since Christmas, no longer.

still I don't want a dose from THORP

The THORP (Thermal Oxide Reprocessing Plant) at Sellafield is still going ahead, despite an expensive court action from Greenpeace, unanimous press incredulity and the two-year delay. It is set to make Cumbria and Britain into an even bigger nuclear dustbin military nightmare. To mark this victory of insanity, and to celebrate the Solstice with an active edge, there is a massive 'Shut Down Sellafield' day on June 18th-20th. Bring coaches of friends, trucks of banners, bolt-croppers & ladders (allegedly) and don't turn back!

For details call 0706 371387

LAMBS SPRING INTO ACTION.

April 7th saw the Lloyd's Bank A.G.M. Approximately 60 of the best dressed lockers-on went to parade their glad rags and very nearly shut down this annual sycophantic display of bumlicking to the board. The agenda had only about half an hour scheduled, but the protests extended the meeting for over two hours. It was very generous of the bank to give two rows of seats over to Group 4 Securitas guards, presumably anxious to get news of how their current accounts were being managed. Coincidentally, these same guards just happened to be at the forefront of trying to silence the peaceful protests, and one had left a pair of bolt cutters in his trouser pocket. Various attempts to handcuff on to the board's table were scotched amid

much furore, and some who had not been trained with the equipment, were not as familiar with Ann Summers' restraining gear as the majority of the directors. Repeated attempts to get the chairman to disclose the bank's environmental lending criteria were ultimately unsuccessful but a meeting between campaigners and high level Lloyd's mandarins has been arranged. Dialogue with the Midland is also taking place. The LAMB's are coming on in leaps and bounds, although at this rate, they may have to change their name if Midland continue in the present conciliatory fashion. However, they too have an A.G.M. coming up which will probably receive a visit from eco-rads seizing the shareholding democracy firmly by the throat!!! LAMB 061-274-4665

Mcbastards

McDonalds are taking two unemployed people to court for libel over a leaflet they allegedly wrote about the Mcmurderers. Mcsdbastards infiltrated London Greenpeace to get evidence.

LEGAL NEWS: Helen & Dave lost their appeal against the outrageous denial of a jury trial. They are applying to the House of Lords over this. They WON their Appeal to restore defence evidence which had been ruled out (on rainforest destruction & trade union disputes). However, continuing the huge COVER UP, Mc'd's are still withholding masses of evidence from the defence.

THE TRIAL. Due to continuous pre-trial legal battles the defendants have had no time to prepare for the trial (estimated to last 3 months) which they will be conducting themselves. The first day of the trial, Monday 18th April, was devoted to further legal argument over the COVER UP and the defendants demands for an adjournment. There was a Free Speech/Solidarity picket.

THE CAMPAIGN. More protests and publicity occur here and abroad all the time. Leaflets available to enable you to D.I.Y. (£12 for 1000, 0602-585666). More funds are urgently needed to pay the fares of 70 defence witnesses (15 abroad).

Campaign meetings at London Greenpeace Thursdays at 6.30pm.

LETTERS FROM THE WILDERNESS OBSCURED BY LONG GRASS.

There has been an unprecedented response from EF!ers to the new organ of the movement, Letters From the Wilderness, the letter-driven 'frequently produced' newsletter. The proprietor of L.F.T.W., has had no sleep processing the 4replies he has had so far. "I really wish activists would stop for a least a few minutes every day, I simply cannot keep up." Fortunately he is a glutton for punishment, and groups are encouraged to keep up the good work. Send him another letter (full details AU9) to the LEEDS EF! address.



One of the consequences of being the group which edits the Action Update seems to be that the level of 'direct action' activity we can sustain, and do the update is limited. Maybe we're spending too much time on the AU, and not enough on actions, (except that surely the AU is a form of direct action?). So groups who are thinking of taking it on beware, and, if there is a way of avoiding this conflict we would like to know! In Oxford, one person worked on the Update, here, we have tried to use the Update as a way of training ourselves to work together and use equipment which we are unfamiliar with. It hasn't really worked. Shame really because we'd all like to live in an anarcho-syndicalist commune, maybe one day when the wolves return to the [lack of] forests.

We have said it before, we'll say it again! The AU is only as good as you make it! Please send in your view of an action you went on - nobody else will. SEND IN ARTICLES BY FRIDAY 17TH JUNE - if necessary FAX them to us on 061-225-7128 if you call first! or e-mail at gnpwilliamson - THANKS. The next edition of the update will be ready for Glastonbury, with a review of the last year and hopefully it can be used as a form of outreach.

We're really grateful for the publications people send us, but have no space to review them in the Update, likewise, we have no space for letters - please send them to Letters To The Wilderness C/O Leeds EF!, ta! Lastly, thanks to Peter Poole for the cartoons we have used. Good aren't they?

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Name: _____

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